

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 123

By Campfield

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Trevor Bayne, winner of the 2011 Daytona 500.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful and talented athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, have established themselves as premier competitors in their respective sports; and

WHEREAS, one such laudable athlete is Trevor Bayne, who has achieved an extraordinary level of success in his estimable career in NASCAR, culminating in his recent victory in the Daytona 500, NASCAR's most prestigious event; and

WHEREAS, in one of the most exciting races in the history of the Daytona 500, Trevor Bayne drove to victory after two green-white-checkered attempts in the 53rd annual Daytona 500 at the historic Daytona International Speedway, thereby becoming, at the age of twenty, the youngest driver ever to win "The Great American Race"; and

WHEREAS, a native of Knoxville, Trevor Bayne began his racing career at the age of five; in the eight years that he competed on the go-kart circuit, he earned three World Championships with over 300 feature wins and eighteen State and Track Championships combined; and

WHEREAS, at the age of thirteen, he made the move to the Allison Legacy Race Series, where he became the youngest top rookie in the series; over his two-year stint in the series Mr. Bayne notched fourteen wins, nineteen pole positions and thirty top-five finishes in only forty-one starts, en route to becoming the series' National Champion in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Trevor Bayne then made a successful transition to the USAR Hooters Pro Cup Series Southern Division where, at the age of fifteen, he again became the youngest driver to ever earn the series' top rookie honors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bayne's climb toward a career in NASCAR got a boost when Dale Earnhardt, Inc., signed him to its driver development program in 2008; that year he began competing in the NASCAR Camping World East, where he grabbed his first NASCAR series win at Thompson (Connecticut) International Speedway; and

WHEREAS, he went on to earn six top-five and seven top-ten finishes and finished fourth in the NASCAR Camping World East point standings; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Trevor Bayne started off the year by finishing second in the Toyota All-Star Showdown on Irwindale Speedway; due to his performance at the Showdown, he captured the Sunoco Rookie of the Race honors, along with the attention of many racing enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bayne made his NASCAR Nationwide Series debut March 21, 2009, at Bristol (Tennessee) Motor Speedway, where he finished twenty-third driving Jimmy Mean's No. 52 entry; he was then tabbed to run a part-time schedule for Michael Waltrip Racing in the No. 99 car in 2009; and

WHEREAS, he started his stint behind No. 99 in impressive fashion, grabbing the outside pole at Nashville Superspeedway on June 6, 2009; in fifteen races that year, Trevor Bayne earned one pole and two top-tens, while finishing inside the top-fifteen a total of seven times; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bayne joined Roush Fenway Racing in October of 2010, competing in the balance of the Nationwide Series in a Roush Fenway Ford; he was only running a limited Sprint Cup schedule with the Wood Brothers when he beat Carl Edwards to the line at the Daytona 500 by a mere .118 seconds; and

WHEREAS, Trevor Bayne has achieved a premier level of success in competition while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the race track; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Trevor Bayne for his phenomenal achievements in the field of auto racing; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Trevor Bayne upon his extraordinary

win at the 2011 Daytona 500 and extend to him our best wishes for every success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.